[26th July 1952

mentioned but, I believe the peasant has spent some amount. On the question of compensating the peasant, I do not know how it can be done legally but I can assure the hon. Member that I am going into the question and shall see whether anything can be done."

SRI P. B. K. RAJACHIDAMBARAM :—" Sir, will the Government take the information that even after the latest order stopping further assignment of land to political sufferers, lands are forcibly taken possession of by certain political sufferers by evicting the occupants with the aid of the Revenue authorities? May I know what the Government are proposing to do about this? "

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—" I am not aware of it, Sir. Probably the hon. Member refers to cases wherein orders have been passed under the old order of things and the political sufferer who has been assigned the land has taken recourse to the ordinary courts of law."

SRI T. NAGI REDDI :—" May I know, Sir, what are the conditions precedent to the grant of lands to political sufferers and whether it is not one of the conditions that the land should be brought under cultivation within three years and, if in any place this condition is not fulfilled, will the Government take charge of the land and give it back to the previous owners? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" Sir, if the law allows it, I am not only willing but very eager to do it."

Sales tax on fish.

* 236 Q.—SRI C. H. KANARAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Rural Welfare be pleased to state when sales tax was first levied in the West Coast on fish caught and cured in the Government fish-curing yards by fishermen?

THE HON. SRI S. B. P. PATTABHI RAMA RAO :—" South Kanara district—1940–41.

Malabar (South)—April 1940.

Malabar (North)—December 1947."

SRI C. H. KANARAN :—" Sir, the question here is about fish caught and cured by the fishermen and not about the traders. The Hon. Minister has not dealt with the fish caught and cured by fishermen. My question has not been replied to, Sir."

THE HON. SRI S. B. P. PATTABHI RAMA RAO :—" Sir, I have given a reply to the question as I have understood it. The hon. Member's question reads as follows :—

'Will the Hon'ble the Minister be pleased to state, when sales tax was first levied in the West Coast on fish caught and cured in the Government fish-curing yards by fishermen?'

" My answer was that sales tax on fish was first levied in South Kanara district in 1940–41; in South Malabar in April 1940 and in North Malabar in December 1947."

26th July 1952]

SRI K. ARANGANATHAN :—" May I know, Sir, whether sales tax is collected on the fish sold in the Government fish growing centres? "

MR. SPEAKER :—" This has got nothing to do with the present question. The hon. Member may put a separate question."

SRI S. DEIVASIGAMANY :—" May I know, Sir, whether sales tax is levied on actual sales of fish or on the approximate value of the turnover fixed by the Commercial Tax Officer at some stage and whether the fishermen are expected to maintain accounts and also issue cash bills? If so, is it just and practicable? "

THE HON. SRI S. B. P. PATTABHI RAMA RAO :—" Sir, where there are accounts, sales tax is assessed accordingly. If there are no accounts, sales tax is assessed on the evidence that the Commercial Tax Officer is able to gather."

SRI T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR :—" Sir, in view of the fact that fish is a very important food-stuff as far as the West Coast is concerned, will the Hon. Minister be pleased to consider whether he can exempt it from sales tax so that the poor people can get it much cheaper? "

THE HON. SRI S. B. P. PATTABHI RAMA RAO :—" Sir, in certain cases, where there is need, it has been exempted."

Travelling allowance drawn by the Hon. the Minister for Finance for the tour in Aruppukkottai area.

* 237 Q.—SRI S. T. ADITYAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state whether he drew travelling allowance for his recent tour in the Kovilpatti-Aruppukkottai area?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" No, Sir."

Leasing of lands in Bapatla taluk.

* 238 Q.—SRI PRAGADA KOTAIAH : Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether any waste land in Bapatla village (Guntur district) formed out of the disreserved Bapatla Block III Survey Nos. 1280, 1281 and 1452 has been let on lease to Shri Desaraju Hanumantha Rao and two others for temporary cultivation;

(b) the extent of this land let on lease;

(c) the number of years for which it was let on lease;

(d) the date of expiry of contract entered into for cultivation of this land;

(e) whether the Government are aware of its not being cultivated by the lessees;

(f) whether the Government are aware of its being cultivated by some landless agricultural labourers of Chillaragollapalem, a hamlet included in the Municipality of Bapatla;